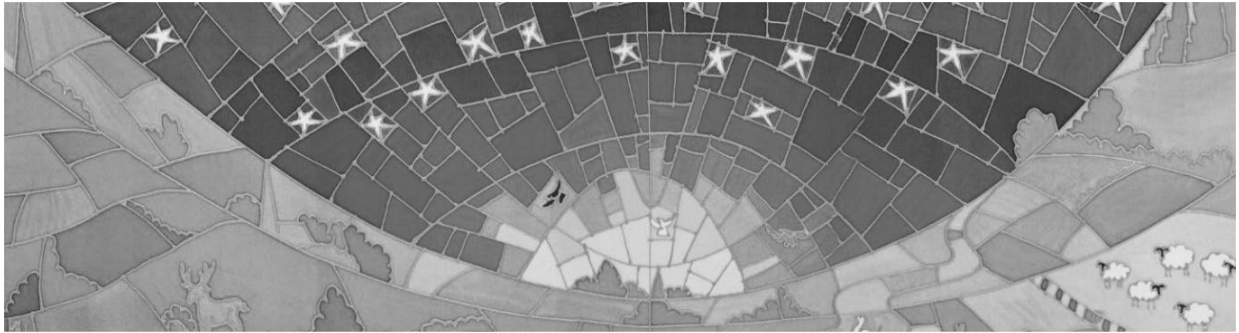


**April 27, 2025**

*Climate Justice / Earth Sunday*



## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY**

All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church exists on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron / Neutral People. We honour the original ancestors of this land and also offer respect and friendship to our Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, Mississauga and Métis neighbours.

**We give thanks for the First Peoples and all who have cared for the land and made it possible for us to dwell and do ministry on this land, and we commit ourselves to walk in right relations with one another.**

**GATHERING HYMN: Let All Things Now Living    RED 881**

## **GREETING**

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the Earth and all creatures!

Greetings in the name of our God who is good:  
**whose love endures forever.**

Greetings to you, sun and moon, you stars of the sky:  
**give to our God your thanks and praise.**

Sunrise and sunset, night and day:  
**give to our God your thanks and praise.**

(Hildegard of Bingen, 13th Century)

Praise be to the Holy Trinity!  
God is sound and life,  
Creator of the Universe,  
Source of all life, whom the angels sing;  
wondrous Light of all mysteries known or unknown  
to humankind, and life that lives in all. **Amen**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us




free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us Pray:

God of life, through whom all beauty and wonder come into being.

We thank you for this Earth, our home, for the diversity of creation, and the blessings of earth, air and water.

Grant us your grace that we may exercise wise stewardship of this Earth, tread lightly upon it, and cherish its resources.

Help us to move towards behaviours that are environmentally healthy; to leave behind our consumer demand for plastics and our wasteful practices; to act now for the good of future generations and all of life.

Give us the will and courage to simplify the way we live; to reduce the energy we use; to share the resources you provide; and to bear the cost of change.

As climate change confronts us, may we commit to the changes that need to be made. Help us to become instruments of a new creation founded on the covenant of your love.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen**

(from *Climate Justice Niagara*)

### **FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32**

*Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.*

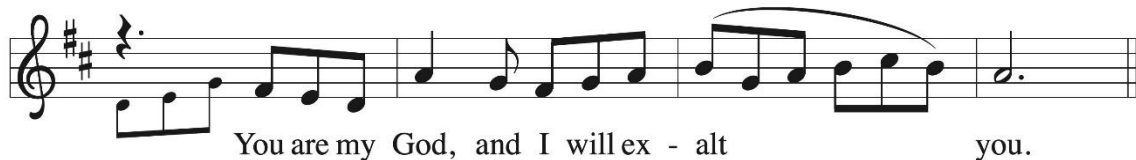
<sup>27</sup> When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup> saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us."

<sup>29</sup> But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup> The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup> And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 118:14-29** *(Sung together in unison with refrain)*

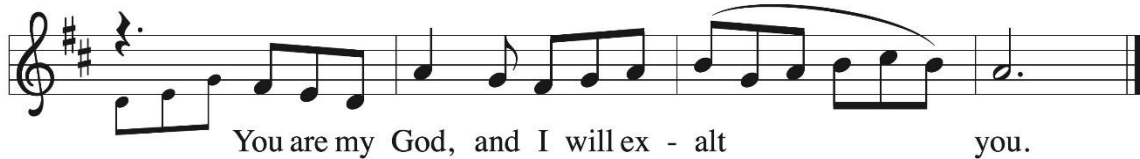


- 14** The Lord is my strength | and my song,  
and has become | my salvation.
- 15** Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of  
the righteous:  
“The right hand of the | Lord acts valiantly!”
- 16** The right hand of the Lord | is exalted!  
The right hand of the | Lord acts valiantly!”
- 17** I shall not | die, but live,  
and declare the works | of the Lord. R
- 18** The Lord indeed pun- | ished me sorely,  
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.
- 19** Open for me the | gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks | to the Lord.
- 20** “This is the gate | of the Lord;  
here the righ- | teous may enter.”
- 21** I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me  
and you have become | my salvation. R
- 22** The stone that the build- | ers rejected  
has become the chief | cornerstone.
- 23** By the Lord has | this been done;  
it is marvelous | in our eyes.
- 24** This is the day that the | Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.
- 25** Hosanna! | O Lord, save us!  
We pray to you, Lord, pros- | per our days! R
- 26** Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of  
the Lord;  
we bless you from the house | of the Lord.
- 27** The Lord is God and has giv- | en us light.  
Form a procession with branches up to the corners | of

the altar.

<sup>28</sup> **You are my God, and I will thank you;  
you are my God, and I will exalt you.**

<sup>29</sup> **Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;  
God's mercy endures forever. R**



## **SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8**

*The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.*

<sup>4</sup> John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup> Look! He is coming with the clouds;  
every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him;  
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.  
So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup> "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

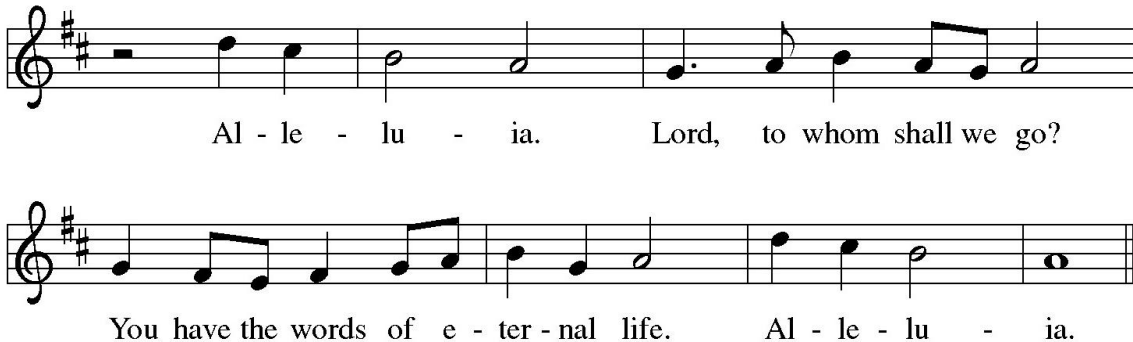
<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



## **HOMILY**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: For the Beauty of the Earth RED 879**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us affirm our faith together:

**We believe that God creates all things, renews all things and celebrates all things.**

**We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet filled with God's presence, a home for us to share with our kin.**

**We believe that God became flesh and blood, became a piece of Earth, a human being called Jesus Christ, who lived and breathed and spoke among us, suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings and for all creation.**

**We believe that the risen Jesus is the Christ at the core of creation reconciling all things to God, renewing all creation and filling the cosmos.**



**We believe the Spirit renews life in creation, groans in empathy with a suffering creation, and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.**

**We believe that with Christ we will rise and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation.**

(Written for Planet Earth Sunday, Australia.)

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

On this day of resurrection joy, let us offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbours, and our world.

Blessed God, whose love calls the whole creation into covenant with you, and who puts in our hands responsibility for the care of the earth and its creatures: we pray for all to whom you have given life and being, saying,

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

For the well-being of the earth; for its resources of water, air, light, and soil, that they may be tended for the good of all creatures, we pray:

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

For the waters of the earth; for their careful use and conservation, that we may have the will and the ability to keep them clean and pure, we pray:

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

For the mineral and energy resources of the planet, that we may learn sustainable consumption and sound care of the environment from which they come, we pray:

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

For the animals of the earth, wild and domestic, large and very small, that they may know the harmony of relationship that sustains all life, we pray:

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

For the creatures of the earth who do us harm and those whose place in your creation we do not understand or welcome, that we may see them as beloved creatures of God, we pray:

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

For all who shape public policies affecting the planet and its creatures, especially those who will be elected tomorrow, and our local leaders, that they may consider wisely the well-being of all who come after us, we pray:

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

For all those engaged in conservation, in agriculture and ranching, in aquaculture and fishing, in mining and industry, and in forestry and timber-harvesting, that the health, fruitfulness, and beauty of the natural world may be sustained alongside human activity, we pray:

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

For the creatures and the human beings of your world who are ill, or in danger, pain, or special need, especially for: Anna-Liisa, Bud, Ruth, Susan, Werner and Debbie, John and Julianna, Ross and Karen, Gwen and Nolan, Ken and Matzi, Irene, Jack and Sharon, Karen, Mary, Kathryn, Bill, Irene, Kelly, John and Laura, Juan and Anita, Bill, Guillermo, Joanne, Micah, and those we name before you in our hearts. (*silence...*) Today we pray especially for Margita and all of Klaus Kessler's family and friends who mourn his passing. Grant them a sure confidence in your loving care that casting all their sorrow on you they may know the consolation of your love.

For all who suffer from the unjust, violent, or wasteful use of the earth's resources or their devastation by war, that all may one day live in communities of justice and peace, we pray:

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

For the gifts of science and technology and for those who practise these skills, that they may be wise, visionary, and compassionate in their work, we pray:

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

For the creatures and the people of the earth whose lives and deaths have contributed to the fruitful abundance of this planet, we pray:

**Merciful God, bring your healing and peace.**

Gracious God, grant that your people may have in them the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and guide us into harmony of relationship through loving-kindness and the wise use of all that you have given; for you are drawing all things into communion with you and with each other by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

(Written for the Episcopal Church of the USA's Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music.)

## **CONFESSIO**

Dear God, deepen our kinship, face to face with Creation. We join in awe and wonder with all creatures and sing out your praise.

How then, faced with such beauty and mystery, do we still fashion gods in our image?

We have called you "endless" - so worshipped endless growth - as if the Earth were single-use.

We have called you "powerful" - so bowed down before corporations who have plundered and polluted the Earth.

We proclaim good news to the rich while the poor cry out in face of our silence.

And when, finally, we acknowledge human responsibility, still we ensure that the poorest and most vulnerable be hit hardest: by rising seas; by failing crops and water; by transition without justice.

We have planned small steps which should have been first steps, but stopped there. We have wanted to believe that crisis was distant.

We have lusted for control and for material goods even as we crucify the Earth.

All this truth could crush us, but this ground is holy and we are welcome:

Forgiven, even before we have put things right, by Jesus who says: "Do not worry about tomorrow - you're up to your eyes in it today!"

Let us repent, change our ways, and God will be with us with courage, faith, and cheerfulness through the hard paths that do lie ahead.

*Silence*

**All: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

God of this good Earth, by the Breath of life, in Christ,  
show us our place and purpose,  
forgive us our foolishness and sin,  
that we may be set free to heal.  
Let it be so. **Amen.**

(Writer: Rev DJM Coleman, EcoChaplain, EcoCongregation  
Scotland, adapted.)

**PEACE**

May the peace of Christ be with you all!  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERTORY

## As the Grains of Wheat

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray:

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed!**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to our gracious God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and a good and joyous thing,  
always and everywhere  
to give you praise, Creator of heaven and earth.  
You took the formless chaos,  
swept across it with your mighty Spirit,  
and said, "Let there be light!" And there was light.

You separated the heavens and earth,  
and brought forth trees and plants.  
You set sun, moon, and stars in the heavens,  
and called forth fish, birds, and all living creatures.  
You made us, creatures of your own image,  
to live in communion with you.

We long for relationship with you,  
but in our humanness, we turn away.  
Yet you remain steadfast,  
calling us again and again to turn to you.  
For your grace and for all your mercies toward us,  
we join your people on earth  
and all the company of heaven  
in proclaiming your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy, God of all life,  
Earth and sea and sky are full of your presence  
and glorify your name.  
Blessed is all creation.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Your Spirit flowed through his life  
as he became the bridge for our reconciliation.  
In this time we remember his life and work.  
We remember your gift of Baptism.  
We reflect on the mystery of the cross.  
We dare to ponder resurrection.

Especially we recall how Jesus took bread,  
grain grown by your sunshine and rain,  
ground by human hands into flour,  
mixed with water and yeast.  
He gave thanks to you, blessed and broke it,  
saying, "Take, eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this to remember me."

After supper Jesus took the cup,  
wine from grapes grown in your sunlight,  
trodden into juice for drinking.  
He gave it to his disciples saying,  
"Drink from this cup, all of you;  
for this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is poured out for the forgiveness of sins."


In remembrance of all your mighty acts on our behalf,  
we bring our whole selves to you,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen;  
Christ comes again and again.**

Pour out your Spirit on these, the gifts of your creation:  
grain, grapes, and us your children.  
Make us see your touch in all of creation  
and let us bring your light into every darkened shadow.  
Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory is yours, loving God,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

(Written by F. Belton Joyner Jr., United Methodist Church, adapted.)

## LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,  
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.  
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we  
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al  
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,  
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus says, 'I am the bread of life; whoever eats this bread will live forever.'

**Lord, our hearts hunger for you; give us this bread always.**

Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome at this table.

Come, receive the gift of new life.

**Thanks be to God!**



## COMMUNION HYMNS:

### Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**Be Not Afraid**  
**Before the Earth Had Yet Begun**  
**Creator God, Your Fingers Trace**  
**God of the Sparrow**

**Red 388**  
**Blue 409**  
**Blue 410**  
**Blue 414**

## TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen, keep, and unite us now and forever. **Amen**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Life-giving God,  
In the mystery of Christ's resurrection, you send light to  
conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of  
life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to  
Jesus' resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the  
world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

### Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let  
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice and bear the name of Christ.  
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with  
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

May God bless us with wonder at creation's glory.

May God bless us with fury at creation's spoiling.

May God bless us with courage at this critical hour.

In the name of the Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**The blessing of the God of life be ours.**

**The blessing of the loving Christ be ours.**

**The blessing of the Holy Spirit be ours,**

**To cherish us, to help us, to make us holy.**

**SENDING SONG****All Things Bright and Beautiful****BLUE 416****DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE****Announcements and Information**

	<b>Today</b>	<b>Next Sunday</b>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Christine Morrison	Anne Stuart
<b>Servers</b>	Julianna Stephens Marilyn Bleach Schranz	Laura F Mann Laura B Mann
<b>Reader</b>	Deborah Szymanski-Potts	Kate Stuttaford
<b>Greeters</b>	Marisela McDougall	Cheryl Arbuckle
<b>Ushers</b>	Ray Steinke Marisela McDougall	Bill & Judy Rogers
<b>AV booth</b>	Michele Altermann John Szymanski	Michele Altermann Brian Janzen
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Laura B Mann Sheila Chappel Bonnie Lichty	Linda Zytner Matzi King
<b>Counters</b>	Christine Morrison Ena Sookraj	Kate Stuttaford Ena Sookraj
<b>Flowers</b>		Michele Altermann
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Kathryn Ssegoda and friends	Annual Meeting

***We pray for:***

**ACC** The Rt. Rev. Todd Townshend, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Huron.

**ELCIC** The congregations of the Western Manitoba area of Manitoba of the Manitoba- Northwestern Ontario Synod.

**TOGETHER** For our full communion partner churches The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and the US-based Episcopal Church (TEC).

**Annual Reports** are available on the table in the narthex. The **Annual Meeting** takes places after the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday May 4, 2025, in Rose Head Hall. It will be a sandwich potluck. Please plan to attend.

**Formula Fund:** Please consider donating to support this quiet but valuable outreach ministry! Just write Formula Fund on the Other line of your envelope or message line of an etransfer. *Thank you.*

**Silvercreek Community Market:** We regularly need rice and red lentils! We currently have 270 families registered so please consider buying the specific items listed below in advance of each month — **for May we need school snacks and cereal.** *We do not need any plastic bread tabs but are running low on reuseable grocery bags. Thank you.*

**Turn Debt into Hope:** Please see Jan Nielsen with her clip board to sign the petition asking governments to address the need to help poor countries struggling under insurmountable debt. For further information, see the April issue of *Connections*, eblasts or talk to Jan.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD: April 28 — May 4**

Wednesday 30	9:00 a.m.	Announcements due to Office
Thursday 1	9:00 a.m.— 3:30 p.m.	Silvercreek Community Market, Rose Head Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice, Nave
Sunday 4	8:30 a.m.	Red Dress Sunday /Easter 3 Holy Communion—Nave
	10:00 a.m.	Red Dress Sunday/ Easter 3 Holy Communion—Nave